

INFORMATION REPORT INFORMATION REPORT

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY	USSR/Austria (Soviet Zone)	REPORT NO.	50X1
SUBJECT	Proposed Changes in Soviet Army Uniforms	DATE DISTR.	19 May 1955
DATE OF INFO.	50X1	REQUIREMENT NO.	RD
PLACE ACQUIRED		REFERENCES	
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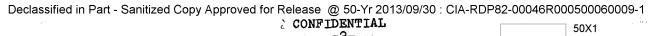
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	as originating to order affected tion zones and the left to be in

- (a) One raincaps with shoulder boards, cloth, water repellent, color unknown, for off-duty dress wear. Source saw an unidentified Soviet Army general wearing such a cape during a visit to his garrison sometime in summer 1954.
- (b) One tunic (gimnastërka), broadcloth, regulation olive green, for off-duty dress wear.
- (c) One pair of breeches, broadcloth, regulation clive green or blue, for certain unknown types of army units. Source recalled that the types of units to be issued blue trousers were given but since his own unit was not included, he had no further interest and could not recall them.
- (d) One belt, leather, $4\frac{1}{2}$ cm wide, to be worn with the above listed tunic.
- (e) One buckle, copper, size and description unknown, to be worn with the above listed belt.

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- (f) One cap, garrison (pilotka), broadcloth, regulation olive green, for off-duty dress wear.
- (g) One pair of boots, leather (yalovyy), black, for off-duty dress wear.
- 2. In addition to the above-listed items, conscript NCOs were to receive a one-time issue of one hat, garrison (furazhka), broadcloth, regulation olive green, for off-duty dress and normal garrison wear. In lieu of the current semi-yearly issue of a cotton garrison cap, tunic, and breeches, all enlisted personnel would receive only four such sets of uniforms for on-duty wear during a three-year tour or normal obligatory tour of service. The periods of issue were unknown to source. This completed the order's provisions.
- 3. Source stated that during November to December 1954 it was rumored among the EM of his unit that in 1955 the shoulder boards of the Soviet Army would be changed. 3 He also stated that the rumor which was spread stated that the only Soviet Army troops that would wear shoulder boards of a color other than the present magenta infantry boards, which he heard would be standard for the army, would be tank units. He said that this rumor was never verified by any officer, nor did any officer ever comment on it.

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reported a forthcoming and 50X1 Comment: similar uniform change in Austria as the result of complaints by Austrian Communists on the seedy appearance on Soviet troops there. 50X1 rancormermeaneer NCO from the Berlinrarea .2. Comment: also reported rumors of the wider issue of blue breeches vtet certain Soviet Army units. Details on this will be forthcoming in a report being prepared on Soviet uniforms in conjunction with the 587th QM TIT. a Soviet 50X1

Comment: A similar rumor was reported by a Soviet private from the Berlin area. See a forthcoming report on 50X1 Soviet supply and transportation based on information supplied by this source.

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